

circumstances. We must not forget that liberty, justice, and fairness are some of our greatest ideals, and we must continue to strive towards these goals, even in the face of tragic situations.

I would like to remember, too, a constituent of mine who lost his life in the attacks. Michael E. Tinley happened to be working in the World Trade Center on that morning, and I offer my deepest condolences to his friends and family. Truly, I mourn with you.

Today, I join my fellow colleagues in honoring the victims who died on September 11, 2001. We remember these events with great sadness but new resolve, and as we continue our work, we will never forget the loss that we felt that day.

IN REMEMBRANCE AND HONOR OF
MICHAEL HORTON

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the constituents of Ohio's 7th Congressional District to express our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Michael Horton and to recognize his numerous achievements.

Michael was an active and engaged member of our local community with his service to our nation in the military, work at his animal hospital and spirit of community volunteerism.

Michael Horton served our nation bravely as a colonel in the United States Air Force and he cared for the animals of our area for 28 years as the owner and president of the Fairborn Animal Hospital.

He founded Fairbornites Restoring Our Greene Spaces (F.R.O.G.S.) and showed his dedication to our community as the host of "Our Fairborn Heritage" and "Fairborn Plain and Simple" on local television. Michael also volunteered with Fairborn Parks and Recreation, Fairborn Heritage Days, Fairborn Police Advisory Board and the Fairborn Education Foundation.

My thoughts and prayers are with Michael's family and friends during this time of terrible loss.

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR
RICHARD SCHIFTER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ambassador Richard Schifter—a friend and lifelong champion for human rights. His own harrowing experience as a Holocaust survivor has been foundational to his efforts on behalf of oppressed, persecuted people the world over.

In the coming weeks, Ambassador Schifter will be honored by Project Interchange and the American Jewish International Relations Institute for his multi-faceted and important work in this arena. I join them in marking his life-time achievements.

In his two decades of government service at the Department of State and the National Security Council, he never wavered in his support for democracy and human rights—bedrocks of the American experience which shamefully are too often relegated to the sidelines in our foreign policy establishment.

As a former U.S. representative in the United Nations Human Rights Commission and former deputy U.S. representative in the U.N. Security Council, he acquired a keen understanding of how the institution works, and some of the political and ideological forces at play including those which seek to undermine the United States and delegitimize the state of Israel. He has effectively spurred congressional action to help rally friendly nations to support the U.S. position at the U.N.

In a 2008 presentation at the University of Virginia Law School, he said, "As an immigrant rather than a native of the United States, let me tell you that I believe in the concept of American Exceptionalism."

I share this belief and would say that Ambassador Schifter is himself an exceptional American.

HOME HEALTHCARE CAN HELP
LOWER COSTS, IMPROVE RESULTS

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, the Census Bureau currently estimates that our nation's elderly population will double between 2000 and 2050. And in my home state of North Carolina, the elderly population is growing much faster than the national average. As our population ages, a rising number of baby boomers will become susceptible to one or more chronic health conditions that will cost our Medicare system billions of dollars. At the same time, our citizens age 65 and over have expressed an overwhelming preference to live independently at home for as long as possible, among family and friends.

What is the solution? Since the elderly population overwhelmingly prefers to receive their healthcare at home and since such treatment is much more cost effective, our government should be investing in home healthcare.

Today, home healthcare is more than just basic, long-term care. It is much more advanced and sophisticated. Highly skilled nurses and therapists are already working within the existing Medicare system to help patients manage heart disease, diabetes, balance problems and other illnesses that, if not properly treated, can increase the cost to Medicare. Home health is helping many of these people stay out of expensive alternatives, and is allowing our seniors to remain at home where they ought to be.

With a rising older population, home healthcare programs that improve care, save money and are preferred by constituents are closely aligned with the government's objectives for health reform. Yet, provisions in the Democrat draft healthcare bill would cut \$51 billion from the Medicare home health program over the next decade. These reductions will have a detrimental effect on access to home care for our elderly population and could po-

tentially cost Medicare more by forcing people unnecessarily into other facility based care.

For these reasons, I believe we must oppose these cuts and lend our support to home healthcare.

REMEMBERING THE 9/11 ATTACKS
ON AMERICA

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 9, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, this week we pause to remember the nearly 3,000 Americans who lost their lives in New York, Pennsylvania, and at the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. There are no words that I or any of us can say that will take away the pain and grief of those who lost family members and friends during the attacks. Thousands from my district were among those who lost those dear to them at the World Trade Center. The memory of that terrible day remains fresh in the minds of those who live or work in New York City and Washington.

This year also marked the tragic passing of Beverly Eckert, who lost her husband Sean on 9/11 and who subsequently co-founded the Voices of September 11th advocacy organization, which played a critical role in pushing for the creation of the 9/11 Commission. Beverly was one of the passengers on Continental Airlines flight 3407, which crashed near Buffalo on February 12, 2009.

Today, we still owe Beverly Eckert and everyone else touched by the 9/11 attacks what we promised them: that we would reform our governmental institutions to help prevent future attacks and that the perpetrators of 9/11 would be brought to justice. Some progress has been made in making our country less vulnerable to future terrorist attacks, but much work remains to be done.

Our rail system is still needlessly vulnerable to the kinds of attacks that rocked London, Madrid, and Mumbai over the last several years. We have yet to screen 100 percent of the cargo entering our ports of entry and our "no fly lists" continue to contain the names of innocent Americans who are routinely detained for no legitimate reason while our porous borders remain a potential pathway for terrorists to enter our country. I will continue my work to eliminate these holes in our defenses and to press for changes in our foreign and defense policy that will help us to remove Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda as a threat to our people.

As we remember those who have died and seek to honor our commitments to them and their survivors, people all across America now can take part in a new way to honor the memory of those who perished on 9/11.

Earlier this year, the Congress passed and President Obama signed into law the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act (Public Law 111-13). In addition to tripling national service volunteerism opportunities to 250,000 for everyone from students to retirees, this bipartisan law designated September 11 every year as a National Day of Service and Remembrance. I encourage all Americans to use September 11 to honor the victims and heroes of the 9/11 tragedy by serving their neighbors and communities.